

PAYMENT PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the options and challenges related to possible reauthorization and reform of two payment programs for local governments, focusing on the recently expired “Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act” and the “Payment in Lieu of Taxes”, after receiving testimony from Senator Baucus; Thomas Tidwell, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Pamela K. Haze, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Budget, Finance, Performance and Acquisition; Anne-Marie Fennell, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; Jay O’Laughlin, University of Idaho College of Natural Resources, Moscow; Mark Haggerty, Headwaters Economics, Bozeman, Montana; Paul J. Pearce, National Forest Counties and Schools Coalition, Stevenson, Washington; and Ryan R. Yates, National Association of Counties, Washington, D.C.

PRESIDENT’S TRADE AGENDA

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President’s 2013 trade agenda, after receiving testimony from Demetrios Marantis, Acting United States Trade Representative.

SYRIA’S HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs concluded a hearing to examine Syria’s humanitarian crisis, after receiving testimony from Anne C. Richard, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration; Nancy E. Lindborg, Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; Antonio Guterres, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, New York, New York; and Tom Malinowski, Human Rights Watch, and Michael Singh, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, both of Washington, D.C.

RETIREMENT SAVINGS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine keeping savings in the retirement system, after receiving testimony from Matt Fellowes, HelloWallet, and Christian E. Weller, University of Massachusetts Boston, on behalf of the Center for American Progress Action Fund, both of Washington, D.C.; and Alison T. Borland, Aon Hewitt, Lincolnshire, Illinois.

AMERICAN AIRLINES/US AIRWAYS MERGER

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights concluded a hearing to examine the American Airlines/US Airways merger, focusing on consolidation, competition, and consumers, after receiving testimony from W. Douglas Parker, US Airways Group, Inc., Tempe, Arizona; Thomas W. Horton, AMR Corporation and American Airlines, Fort Worth, Texas; Diana L. Moss, American Antitrust Institute, Washington, D.C.; and William J. McGee, Consumers Union, New York, New York.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Gregory Alan Phillips, of Wyoming, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Enzi and Barrasso, and Karol Virginia Mason, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee ordered favorably its Biennial Report for the 112th Congress.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 31 public bills, H.R. 1244–1274; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 26–27; and H. Res. 127–129 were introduced.

Pages H1629–32

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H1632–33

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 127, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth District of Texas (H. Rept. 113–22).

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Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins (NY) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1571**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1576**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Rev. Alisa Lasater Wailoo, Capitol Hill United Methodist Church, Washington, DC. **Page H1576**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 133 nays with 1 answering "present", Roll No. 81. **Page H1590**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m. **Page H1588**

Dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas: Agreed by unanimous consent to H. Res. 127, to dismiss the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Twenty Eighth Congressional District of Texas. **Page H1590**

Providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress: The House agreed to H. Res. 115, to provide for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 136 nays, Roll No. 82.

Pages H1581–90, S1591–97

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

Pages H1588–90

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014: The House began consideration of H. Con. Res. 25, to establish the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, March 20th.

Pages H1581–90, S1597–H1625

H. Res. 122, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) and the resolution (H. Res. 115), was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 189 nays, Roll No. 80, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas 189 nays, Roll No. 79.

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Quorum Calls Votes:—Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear

on pages H1588–90, H1589–90, H1590 and H1596–97. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Department of Energy, Environmental Management. Testimony was heard from Dave Huizenga, Acting Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

APPROPRIATIONS—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OFFICERS FY 2014 BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request for House of Representatives Officers. Testimony was heard from Daniel J. Strodel, Chief Administrative Officer; Karen L. Haas, Clerk; and Paul D. Irving, Sergeant at Arms.

APPROPRIATIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing on General Services Administration Oversight. Testimony was heard from Dan Tangherlini, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—TOP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Top Management Challenges at the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education: Perspective from the Inspector Generals. Testimony was heard from Elliot P. Lewis, Assistant Inspector General, Office of Audit, Department of Labor; Kathleen S. Tighe, Inspector General, Department of Education; Daniel R. Levinson, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION BUDGET; AND YOUTH VIOLENCE RESEARCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on National Science Foundation Budget; and Youth Violence Research. Testimony